

Welcoming Remarks



Linda Neunzig

Linda Neunzig (Emcee) – Linda Neunzig is the owner of Ninety Farms, a 50-acre sustainable farm in Arlington WA. There she raises all natural grass-fed USDA beef and Katahdin lamb for Seattle area restaurants and local farmers markets. Linda has attended "Terra Madre" in Turin, Italy three times as a US delegate for Slow Food USA. Linda was also one of five farmers chosen from across the United States to represent the American Farmer at the New York City Meals On Wheels benefit in July of 2008 and was featured in Gourmet Magazine as one of the producers. In 2008 Linda was awarded the "Women Who Inspire" award by the National Women's Chef and Restaurateurs Association. Farming is not Linda's only profession; she is also the Agriculture Project Coordinator for Snohomish County. There she is a part of the county's Economic Development team providing assistance to farmers as well as leading the Snohomish County Focus on Farming conference, the Agriculture Sustainability project, the county's centennial farms project, a first ever Western Washington wine competition at the Evergreen State Fair, leading the creation of a year-round farmers market, as well as many other agriculture-related projects.



John Lovick

John Lovick – John Lovick is more than just the Snohomish County Executive, a position to which he was appointed on June 3, 2013. Most important to Lovick is his role as the proudest husband, father and grandfather. Prior to becoming Executive, Lovick served in the U.S. Coast Guard and spent 31 years as a Washington State Patrol trooper, five years as a Mill Creek city councilmember and nine years as a state Legislator representing the 44th District. Lovick currently volunteers in his community and sits on the Sound Transit Board and on the Puget Sound Regional Council. He lives in Mill Creek with his wife.

Keynote Speakers



Fred Kirschmann

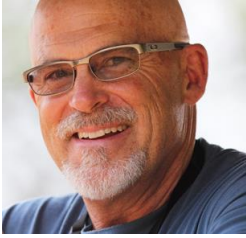
Frederick L. Kirschenmann – Fred is a longtime national and international leader in sustainable agriculture who shares an appointment as Distinguished Fellow for the Leopold Center at Iowa State University and as President of Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture in Pocantico Hills, New York. He also continues to manage his family's 1,800-acre certified organic farm in south central North Dakota.

He is a professor in the ISU Department of Religion and Philosophy and holds a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Chicago. He has held numerous appointments, including the USDA's National Organic Standards Board and the National Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production operated by the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and funded by Pew Charitable Trusts.

In April 2010, the University Press of Kentucky published a book of Kirschenmann's essays, "Cultivating an Ecological Conscience: Essays from a Farmer Philosopher," that trace the evolution of his ecological and farming philosophy over the past 30 years.

He converted his family's farm in North Dakota to a certified organic operation in 1976. He developed a diverse crop rotation that has enabled him to farm productively without synthetic inputs (fertilizers or pesticides) while simultaneously improving the health of the soil. Kirschenmann's farm has been featured in numerous publications including National Geographic, Business Week, Audubon, the LA Times and Gourmet magazine. In 1995 it was profiled in an award-winning video, "My Father's Garden by Miranda Smith Productions," and is still widely used as a teaching tool. Kirschenmann also has been advisor for several documentaries including "American Meat" and "Symphony of the Soil."

Kirschenmann served as the Iowa State University Leopold Center's second director from July 2000 to November 2005 and has been recognized widely for his work. He was one of the first 10 recipients of the James F. Beard Foundation Leadership awards in 2011 and received the 2012 Sustainable Agriculture Achievement Award from Practical Farmers of Iowa.



Robert Thayer

Robert Thayer, FASLA, FCELA – Robert is Emeritus Professor of Landscape Architecture and Founder of the Landscape Architecture Program, Univ. of CA, Davis. In Robert's 38-year academic career he has written two books, several book-length monographs and over 100 academic articles and papers in the field of landscape architecture. Holding degrees from Cornell University and Stanford University, Robert has spent nearly his entire professorial career at UC Davis, exceptions being appointments as James Hill Visiting Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Minnesota in 1988, and Beatrix Farrand Distinguished Visiting Professor of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, College of Environmental Design, at UC Berkeley, 2006-2009.

Professor Thayer was Chair of the UC Davis Department of Environmental Design from 1988-90. He is also past Chair of the national Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board, with responsibilities for the certification of over sixty university graduate and undergraduate programs in landscape architecture in the United States. He remains a member of UCD graduate groups in Geography and Community Development and has guided Doctoral and Masters candidates both at Davis and Berkeley.

Thayer received nine awards for his research and writing from the American Society of Landscape Architects, including the society's highest award for any landscape architectural work, the 1994 President's Award of Excellence, for his book, *Gray World, Green Heart: Technology, Nature, and the Sustainable Landscape*. In 2003, Thayer published *LifePlace: Bioregional Thought and Practice*, by University of California Press. *LifePlace* won the Sierra Club's "Best Environmental Book" Award for the California Mother Lode Chapter in 2004.

As an emeritus, Thayer continues his work on regenerative systems in regional planning, sustainable design, bioregional theory and practice, wind/renewable energy policy, and post-oil peak landscape re-localization. He is now working with several graduate students investigating changes in agricultural/regional landscapes in response to energy, climate, and social factors. [See more.](#)

Speakers for Workshops and Sessions

- **Fred Berman** – Fred is the Project Manager for Client Services, Rural Cooperative Development, Agricultural Processing Initiative with Northwest Agricultural Business Center. Fred worked with and developed the new Mobile Poultry Processing Unit now available to the public. He has extensive knowledge of the unit, restaurant business and has worked prior for many years with the Washington State Department of Agriculture.



Chris Bieker

- **Chris Bieker** – Chris has served Washington farmers and ranchers for 14 years as an outreach coordinator for the Farm Service Agency. Previously, she served in the capacity as soil conservationist and public affairs specialist for 12 years with the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- **Wayne Carpenter** – Wayne is a founding partner of Salish Coast Enterprises, doing business as Skagit Valley Malting in Skagit Valley Washington. Skagit Valley Malting works closely with the farming community, the Port of Skagit, and the Washington State University Research Center to develop added value malt products from the unique grains bred for and grown in Skagit Valley and the Salish Coast region. The company is developing process controlled equipment for custom malting of varietal grains and establishing a complete food grain supply chain in the Skagit Valley in cooperation with the local farmers, local government and the WSU research Center. Wayne has Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Mathematics from the University of Northern Iowa. He was a founding partner, Vice President of Engineering for SAROS Corporation. Hired engineers and managed the development of the first distributed document management system using client server technology. He was promoted to President and Chief Executive Officer lead the company through international expansion for nine years. Just prior to starting Salish Coast Enterprises Wayne worked as an executive coach and consultant designing business plans and software architectures, cultivating management and leadership attributes, formulating business strategy and financial planning for companies including Viack Corporation, Pioneer Aerofab, Port of Skagit, Ferris Robin Manufacturing.



Micaela Colley

- **Micaela Colley** – Micaela is the executive director of Organic Seed Alliance (OSA). She manages participatory plant breeding, research and education projects with farmers, university researchers and other seed professionals. She has authored several educational publications covering topics on organic seed production, on-farm crop improvement and variety trialing and teaches workshops on seed related topics. Micaela resides in Port Townsend, WA, the home of OSA headquarters, where she enjoys participating in the local farm community with her two children and chef-husband.

- **Sharon Collman** – Sharon is the Horticulture and IPM educator for WSU Extension in Snohomish County.



Matt Ferguson

- **Matt Ferguson, E.A.M.P.** – Matt has been practicing acupuncture and Chinese medicine in the Northwest for the last 18 years. He was the Chinese Herb Dispensary Coordinator for 15 years at the Bastyr Natural Health Clinic and presently teaches Chinese herbal preparations and medicine making at Bastyr's botanical medicine lab. For fun, he volunteers at the Beacon Hill Food Forest and grows and wild-crafts a variety of Chinese herbs that like to grow in this climate.



Jean Hales

- **Jean Hales** – Jean is a native of Wyoming, grew up in Salt Lake City and moved to Snohomish County in 1984. Jean served as Vice President of the Everett Area Chamber of Commerce for 10½ years and President of the South Snohomish County Chamber of Commerce for 10 years. She served on the Washington Chamber of Commerce Executives (WCCE) board in several capacities, including as its president. Hales assumed the responsibilities of the PTAC program hosted by Economic Alliance Snohomish County in June 2012. Her territory includes Snohomish, Whatcom and Skagit counties. Her understanding of and passion for small business is resulting in quality counseling and instruction on ways to do business with the government. She is especially focusing on developing more in-depth workshops to help in the success of her PTAC clients. She is also working with the EASC staff and Small Business Board to develop programs that assist small business growth. A graduate of the University of Utah with a degree in Political Science, Hales is recognized throughout the community for her leadership, collaborative approach and championing of small business. Hales played a key role in the conception and realization of Economic Alliance Snohomish County. She is one of the founders of Leadership Snohomish County, has been recognized three times as an outstanding woman business leader by the Snohomish County Business Journal and was the first recipient of the AAOA Spirit of Business Award. A member of the Rotary Club of Lynnwood, Hales provided critical leadership to the Lynnwood Rotary Community Foundation, enabling it to grow from a struggling \$300K to a

thriving organization with over \$1.5M in assets, now capable of making a substantial impact on the local community. Recently, she recruited and supported the successful first-time candidacy of one of Snohomish County's new mayors.



Vivian Henderson

- **Vivian Henderson** – Vivian is a farmer; sustainable agriculture activist; good, clean, fair food enthusiast; and co-founder of the NorthWest Asian Medicinal Herb Network, with Mercy Yule.



Karen Hills

- **Karen Hills** – Karen earned an M.S. in Soil Science from the University of Vermont and a Ph.D. in Crop Science from Washington State University. The focus of her dissertation research was on the improvement of baking quality and local markets for wheat grown in Western Washington. Karen grew up in Fairbanks, Alaska and has had a variety of experiences in the agricultural realm including working at a musk ox farm in Alaska, at a sheep farm, for an organic vegetable growers cooperative, as a beekeeper and as a volunteer technical assistant working with farmers in Turkmenistan.



John Holeman

- **John Holeman** – John works at the Monroe Correctional Complex. Over the years he has made a difference to hundreds of offenders by providing them with job skills, equipping them to seek legitimate employment opportunities when they need to face the practical challenges of beginning a new and difficult chapter in their lives. John is a distinguished leader in the Washington State Department of Corrections, modeling the way and actively engaging in cooperative and collaborative efforts to implement the central food program at Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC).



Cheral Jones

- **Cheral Jones** – Cheral has worked ten years WA public procurement and contracting: previous Dept. of Health program contracts; DSHS public works contracts, solicitations, agency agreements and grants; GA master contracts, fuel hedging, PCard and strategic sourcing projects; current Manager Dept. of Enterprise Services of Agency Contracts, Consulting & Oversight, managing a program of enterprise public procurement supervisors and a team of consultants handling internal and single-agency procurements, guidance, oversight, sole source, emergency, and statewide training. She has also worked 20 years private sector contract management: 10 years at Nicholas-Applegate Capital Management, Contracts Manager/Paralegal, San Diego; Nintendo of America Legal Team - license agreements, marketing, advertising, litigation, and risk

management; Inslee Best Doezie & Ryder, Bellevue - corporate, real estate and municipal agreements; and Gary E. Andrews (AAG)- real estate, venture capital, estate, probate and corporate law/contracts.



Tricia Kovacs

- **Tricia Kovacs** – Tricia coordinates education and outreach for farm to school and on-farm food safety projects at the Washington State Department of Agriculture. Her team supports links between farms and institutions around the state to increase purchasing of Washington-grown food for schools, child care centers, and other institutions. Tricia serves as the Washington State Lead for the National Farm to School Network, WSDA's representative to the Governor's Small Business Liaison Team, and a member of the Washington State University Small Farms Team. She was the founding program manager for the Farm to School Program at WSDA, as established by the 2008 Local Farms-Healthy Kids Act. She is the lead author of "A School's Guide to Purchasing Washington-Grown Food," a new publication that clarifies state and federal rules for applying a geographic preference in school food procurement, and she coordinated the recent multi-agency "SAFE Salad Bars in School" project.



Rebecca Linville

- **Rebecca Linville** – Rebecca has worked six years with the State of Washington serving as an analyst, two years with the Dept. of Enterprise Services as a management analyst assisting with data and technical support, four years with the Dept. of Labor and Industries serving as a financial analyst and twenty years in financial and technical data analysis. Specialized in data analysis, financial analysis and trend analysis. Focus on technical systems and business solutions within organizations. Responsible for implementing new financial and management system databases. Lean Practitioner for the Department of Enterprise Services. Facilities workshops and meetings to produce results.



Edwina Martin-Arnold

- **Edwina Martin-Arnold** – Edwina is a small business owner, and prior to working at Office of Minority & Women Business Enterprises, was a Prosecuting Attorney for King County and the City of Seattle. Edwina is also a published romance author and enjoy coaching basketball in my spare time.



Carol Miles

- **Carol Miles** – Carol is a professor in the Department of Horticulture at Washington State University, and is the Horticulture Specialist located at the WSU Mount Vernon Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Center. She specializes in vegetable crop production, with a strong interest in alternative crops and organic production. She is also the program leader for cider apple research. Carol has her Ph.D. in vegetable crops from Cornell University.



Jason Niebler

- **Jason Niebler** – Jason is the founding director of the Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAgE) Collaborative. With support from the National Science Foundation, SAgE was launched at Seattle Central College in 2009 and has since expanded to include Edmonds Community College and Skagit Valley College. Jason earned a M.S. in Forest Resources from the University of Washington where he conducted research on tropical agroforestry land use patterns, crop productivity, and ethnobotanical diversity. He has taught for U.S. university study abroad programs and collaborated on U.N. and other agency community sustainable development projects while stationed in several Latin American countries. When in the Pacific Northwest, Jason has led back-country forest management and front-country habitat restoration projects and farmed in the Snoqualmie Valley of King County, which consequently informed the conception and direction of SAgE urban and small farm agriculture programming.



Servando Patlan

- **Servando Patlan** – Servando is the Business Diversity & Outreach Manager, at the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services. He completed his undergraduate studies at Humboldt State University and has obtained certifications from the Information Technology Boot Camp Program at Stanford University, the University of Washington Executive Leadership Program, and Information Technology Project Management Program. Mr. Patlan has over thirty years of experience in Washington State Government information technology, purchasing, and contracting. Mr. Patlan is fluent in both English and Spanish.

- **Janet Poncelet** – Janet is formerly of Simplot as a Technical Services Representative and has just joined the Wilbur-Ellis Team.



Kathryn Quanbeck

- **Kathryn Quanbeck** – Kathryn is the program manager for the Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network (NMPAN). She develops educational content related to local and regional meat processing issues, coordinates outreach for NMPAN and provides consultation in local meat supply chain business development and management, policy and regulations, and marketing. She has a master's degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of California - Davis and was formerly a livestock economist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Learn more about



Bob Rock

- **Bob Rock** – Bob is a partner at Skagit Valley Malting and a brewing instructor at Skagit Valley College. His work at the malting company includes testing and analysis of the malt, test batch brewing and statistical engineering for all aspects of the business. Bob thought he retired after a long career in quality and reliability engineering for John Deere and PACCAR (the parent company of Kenworth, Peterbilt and DAF trucks) but the lure of doing statistical engineering and brewing for a start up malting company was too much to resist. During his time at PACCAR he served as “Six Sigma Master Black Belt” and “Design for Six Sigma Master Black Belt” despite the fact that he hated those goofy titles. He is now putting all those skills to work in the field of malting, brewing and distilling – without the goofy titles and much better fringe benefits.

- **Steve Ross** – Steve is the National Assessment Services Supervisor with USDA, AMS, LPS, Quality Assessment Division.



Tim Ross

- **Tim Ross, DAOM** – Dr. Ross has been actively involved in TCM research since 2003. His most recently completed project was titled “Comparing the Chromatographic Fingerprint and Anti-Cancer Effect of Scutellaria Species Grown in North America to those grown in China.” In addition to growing Chinese herbs in Stanwood and analyzing them at Bastyr, he is also currently working with the Chinese Medicine Database to publish a book focused on the cultivation, harvest and processing of TCM medicinals.



Jo Lynne Seuffer

- **Jo Lynne Seuffer** – Jo Lynne is a Risk Management Specialist with USDA RMA’s Spokane Regional Office serving Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Jo Lynne has 32 plus years of experience with USDA, working in Kansas, New Mexico and throughout the Pacific Northwest and Alaska.



Rob Smith

- **Rob Smith** – Rob has spent the last decade involved with all aspects of organic farming, from production to sales and distribution. After earning a BA in International Political Economy and Latin American Studies from UC Santa Cruz, Rob spent 7 years managing Happy Boy Farms, a 400+ acre organic produce farm in the central coast of California. Since relocating to the Northwest over a year ago, Rob has been working for Viva Farms, a Skagit Valley based farm incubator helping new farmers and farm workers transition to farm ownership. Rob also works with SAgE, managing the development of the SAgE student farm and developing curriculum.



Claus Svendsen

- **Claus Svendsen** – Claus is the Department Chair for the Department of Environmental Conservation at Skagit Valley College. Dr. Svendsen received his Caud. Scient. (Master of Science in wildlife management and conservation biology) at Copenhagen University, Copenhagen, Denmark. The thesis work was conducted through the Institute for Arctic Biology, University of Alaska (UAF), Fairbanks, Alaska. Svendsen received his Ph.D. in wildlife ecology at the College of Forest Resources, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. Dr. Svendsen's research focuses on plant-herbivore interaction as well as conservation biology. In addition to research, he is involved in curriculum development for undergraduate education within natural resources and watershed management.



Peg Tillery

- **Peg Tillery** – Peg is a WSH&G garden editor and writer and a retired WSU Kitsap Extension educator. Her specialties include: youth and community gardening, numerous topics on horticulture, native plants, water quality, marine critters and entomology. She is a member of Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association and Garden Writers Association. Peg volunteers for WSU as a Master Gardener, Beach Naturalist, Stream Seward and Native Plant Advisor. She writes a popular column and blog called “Plant Life” for the Kitsap Sun. Bremerton Kitsap Access TV (BKAT) carries her “Kitsap Gardener” program with helpful tips on gardening in our maritime climates. Awards include: YWCA Woman of Achievement, WSNLA Educator of the Year, 2014 Media Award from WSU State Master Gardener Foundation, and Olympic Koi Club Journalist of the Year. Peg can be reached at gardenmentor@yahoo.com



Sherrye Wyatt

- **Sherrye Wyatt** – Sherrye is Executive Director of the Northwest Cider Association, representing the emerging cider industry in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and British Columbia. Members include cidermakers, orchardists, allied suppliers, and enthusiasts. Her background in agriculture includes grain, apple, and wine grapes having worked for the North American Export Grain Association, Washington Apple Commission, and Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers. She also helped launch Cave B Estate Winery at SageCliffe, the first destination winery in Washington and served on the Washington Wine

Institute board. Raised on a farm in Eastern Washington, she is a graduate of Washington State University.



Mercy Yule

- **Mercy Yule, EAMP** – Mercy has been practicing herbs, acupuncture, and shiatsu for 25 years, in Seattle, Bellevue, and New York. Somewhere in the middle there, she became a certified arborist, and a mom. Mercy is dedicated to the preservation of traditional knowledge, which has so many useful applications in the present-day medical milieu. She is co-founder of the NorthWest Asian Medicinal Herb Network, with Vivian Henderson.